

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AEC-05 AF-04 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-06 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NASA-01

NEA-06 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

RSC-01 OES-03 SS-15 SAJ-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 /103 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:DBLACK:LSQ

APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

DOD:DANDERSON

L/UNA:MMATHESON

PM/DCA:JSALMON

ACDA/IR:DLINEBAUGH

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O R 212241Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A (DECONTROL 12/31/74)

TAGS: PARM, UN, ICRC, SW

SUBJECT: UNGA DISARMAMENT: SWEDISH DRAFT RES ON NAPALM
AND INCENDIARIES

REF: (A) USUN 5066; (B) STATE 255023; (C) USUN 5192

1. PER REF (B) DEL SHOULD ABSTAIN IN VOTE ON RES AS
TABLED.

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2. DEL SHOULD EXPLAIN VOTE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

"MY DELEGATION REGRETS HAVING TO ABSTAIN IN THE VOTE ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION BEFORE US. WE HAD HOPED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE FIRST COMMITTEE TO ACHIEVE CONSENSUS ON A RESOLUTION REFLECTING GENERAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE APPROPRIATE APPROACH TO BE TAKEN IN THE NEXT STAGE OF INTERNATIONAL CONSIDERATION OF QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE USE OF NAPALM, INCENDIARIES AND CERTAIN OTHER CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS.

"WE ARE CONCERNED IN PARTICULAR THAT THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON THE REAFFIRMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW NOT BE DIVERTED FROM WHAT WE REGARD AS THE CONFERENCE'S PRIMARY TASK, NAMELY, FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT PROTOCOLS

WHICH WOULD AFFORD GREATER PROTECTION TO BOTH COMBATANTS AND NON-COMBATANTS IN TIME OF WAR. THUS, WE FIND THE LANGUAGE IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE PRESENT DRAFT RESOLUTION TROUBLESOME IN ITS INVITATION TO THE CONFERENCE 'TO CONTINUE ITS ... SEARCH FOR AGREEMENT ON POSSIBLE RULES PROHIBITING OR RESTRICTING THE USE' OF THE SPECIFIC CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS IN QUESTION.

"WE THINK THIS SETS AN OVERLY AMBITIOUS GOAL FOR THE CONFERENCE, ONE WHICH COULD DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM ITS PRIMARY WORK, AND WHICH IS UNREALISTIC ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE RECOGNIZED NEED FOR FURTHER EXPERT EXAMINATION OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE USE OF THESE WEAPONS. THE UNITED STATES PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS. WE CONCUR WITH THE CONCLUSION REACHED AT THAT CONFERENCE THAT A SECOND SESSION IS NECESSARY TO EXPLORE FURTHER THE MANY COMPLEX QUESTIONS CONCERNING SPECIFIC CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, INCLUDING INCENDIARIES, THAT MAY CAUSE UNNECESSARY SUFFERING OR HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS. THESE QUESTIONS CUT ACROSS A WIDE RANGE OF FIELDS OF EXPERTISE--MILITARY, MEDICAL, LEGAL, AND TECHNOLOGICAL--AND MY GOVERNMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BELIEVES THAT CONSIDERED AND AUTHORITATIVE VIEWS OF EXPERTS WOULD BE PREREQUISITES FOR FURTHER SERIOUS EXAMINATION OF POSSIBLE RULES CONCERNING THE WEAPONS IN QUESTION IN ANY FORUM. THE UNITED STATES EXPECTS TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE CONTEMPLATED SECOND SESSION OF THE ICRC EXPERTS' CONFERENCE.

"WE DO NOT, OF COURSE, THINK THE NEXT SESSION OF THE DIP-

LOMATIC CONFERENCE NEED BE PRECLUDED FROM ANY CONSIDERATION OF THE WEAPONS IN QUESTION. THUS, WE COULD HAVE ACCEPTED A FORMULATION IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3 INVITING THE CONFERENCE TO CONTINUE ITS EXAMINATION OF POSSIBLE RULES PROHIBITING OR RESTRICTING THE USE OF SUCH WEAPONS. THIS WOULD HAVE ALLOWED PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE TO PUT FORWARD ANY VIEWS THEY MIGHT HAVE ON THE QUESTION. LET ME CONCLUDE BY REITERATING OUR STRONG VIEW THAT THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE SHOULD PRIMARILY PURSUE THE HUMANITARIAN GOALS EMBODIED IN THE TWO PROTOCOLS UNDER CONSIDERATION." INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISARMAMENT, NAPALM, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, CHEMICAL WARFARE WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE257483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DBLACK:LSQ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740338-0058
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741122/aaaaasqq.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) USUN 5066; (B) STATE 255023; (C)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNGA DISARMAMENT: SWEDISH DRAFT RES ON NAPALM AND INCENDIARIES
TAGS: PARM, SW, UN, ICRC
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005